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JOB SERVICE

Washington State
Employment Security Department
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in cooperation with the
Bureau of Labor Statistics
and the Employment and
Training Administration
U.S. Department of Labor

Washington Labor Market

Volume 9, Number 10

October, ~~August~~, 1984

HIGHLIGHTS

The jobless rate in Washington State fell to 8.4 percent of the civilian labor force in September. The measure has not been this low since November 1980, shortly before the recession took hold. The drop between August and September was 0.4 of a percentage point, about average for this time of year.

With the notable exception of aerospace, the employment in durable goods manufacturing continued to decline in the state. Lumber and wood products, shipbuilding and aluminum, suffering from foreign competition and poor market conditions, among other ills, lost jobs again during September.

Layoffs announced by The Weyerhaeuser Company will cut deeply into timber payrolls before the end of 1984, adding to usual winter cutbacks in sawmill and logging operations. The layoffs will affect about 700 workers in Raymond, Everett, and Enumclaw. A bill signed by the President, allowing timber companies to buy back unprofitable Federal timber cutting contracts at a discount, will preempt some additional closures in the industry.

	Sept. 1984*	Aug. 1984*	Sept. 1983
Civilian Labor Force	2,071,000	2,079,900	2,083,800
Total State Employment	1,897,900	1,895,900	1,890,200
Total Unemployment	173,100	184,000	193,600
State Unemployment Rate	8.4	8.8	9.3
National Civilian Unemployment Rate	7.1	7.3	8.8

*These data represent alternative estimates of labor force conditions developed by the State Employment Security Department. They are more nearly comparable with data released in previous years than are the official Bureau of Labor Statistics' estimates developed for Federal program purposes.

Planned workforce reductions by two major Puget Sound Shipyards will idle another 1,000 workers in the next two to three months. Company officials blamed the layoffs on a drought in new military contracts, which they attribute to "high labor costs" in the region compared to companies on the Gulf Coast.

A recent rise in aluminum prices and re-opening of an ALCOA potline in Vancouver may signal a halt to further job losses in the primary metals sector. Martin-Marietta, which recently sold its ingot processing plant in Goldendale, Washington to an Australian company, is one of several major producers to sustain losses in a market saturated by cheap foreign imports.

Termination of temporary government jobs at parks, forests, play-grounds, and in summer youth work-experience programs were more than balanced by the return of 17,200 public education employees as schools re-opened in September. Altogether, government payrolls jumped by 11,000 during the month.

Another hefty boost in aerospace employment (+1,100) and seasonal gains in food processing (+1,000), wholesale and retail trade (+3,600), construction (+1,100) and service industries (+2,700) helped produce a net gain in total employment of about 2,000 during September. In the jobless category, about 11,000 fewer people were classified as "unemployed" during September. Many of these were young people who left the labor force when school resumed in September.

With the exception of food processing, where gains were 70 percent below the typical September rise, the seasonal jumps were not unusual. The rise in construction payrolls, however, was suprisingly strong in light of mortgage rates that are still well above 12 percent, the level that would presumably revive a sluggish residential housing market. A "boomlet" in September construction nationwide, brought-on by a small drop in mortgage rates, may have also contributed to construction employment in the state.

Nationally, data reported in September prompted some forecasts of a "growth recession", a period signified by less than three percent annual growth in Gross National Product (GNP) and small rises in the jobless rate. Revised third quarter figures placed GNP growth at an annual rate of 2.7 percent, well below the nine percent rate for the first half of 1984.

The Department of Commerce's Index of Leading Economic Indicators rose in September by 0.4 percent; but a revision to the August figure showed the Index falling, rather than rising 0.5 percent, as first reported. The August dip was the third straight monthly decline in the Index, which is supposed to forecast turns in the economy six to nine months ahead of time.

While the national economy is unmistakably slowing, a recession does not seem in the offing. The unemployment rate nationally fell 0.2 of a percentage point, from 7.3 percent in August to 7.1 percent September, accompanied by a rise in personal income and consumer spending. After a hiatus in the summer, consumers are again active. This, in turn, should reactivate production, which had also slowed in response to declines in consumption.

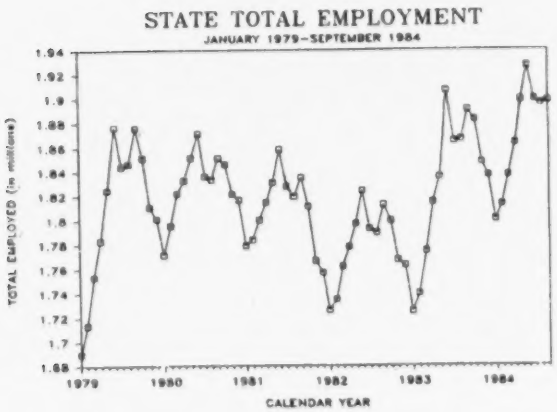
The general slowdown in economic activity and low inflation enabled the prime lending rate to fall for the third time in three months, which should keep business investments and consumer purchases of "big ticket" items on track. Falling oil prices and the failure of oil exporting countries to curtail production in recent months is a positive sign for interest rates.

Moderation in interest rates and continued strength in business spending is helping the state partake more fully in the national recovery. As shown in chart #3, the gap between the state and national unemployment rates narrowed in the third quarter. In September, the difference was only 1.3 percentage points. (Monthly data in this chart has been seasonally adjusted and aggregated into quarters to smooth-out volatile monthly swings.

CHART 1

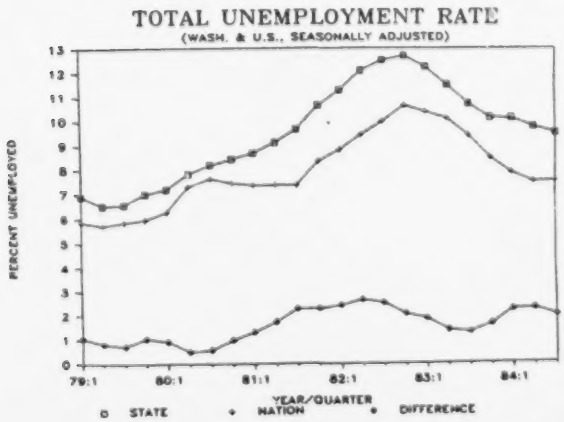
State Jobless Rate
Lowest Since November, 1980.

CHART 2



Total Employment Holds
Steady in September.

CHART 3



Gap Between State and National
Unemployment Rate Narrows
In Third Quarter.

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

A healthy jump in aerospace payrolls and layoffs in shipbuilding and lumber again highlighted monthly developments in manufacturing. Federal timber "buy-back" legislation signed by the President will prevent some further closures of sawmill and logging operations in the region. In non-durables manufacturing, an abnormally low seasonal rise in food processing payrolls highlighted September developments. Since March, nearly 13,000 jobs have been added in the state's manufacturing sector with aerospace accounting for more than 5,000.

Durable Goods Industries

State Recovery Uneven

The contrasting picture in aerospace and timber explains the unevenness of the statewide recovery. The Seattle-Everett labor area, which was ranked sixth in economic health by a recent Federal study of local economies, continues to ride the good fortunes of aerospace. Meanwhile, logging and milling communities are still in deep recession. Pacific, Lewis, Skamania, Grays Harbor, and Okanogan, each heavily dependent on lumber and wood products, still suffer from double-digit unemployment rates. The search is on in these communities for new business and industry, with tourism the focus of attention in counties along the Columbia River.

In the last several weeks, Weyerhaeuser laid off hundreds of workers at mills in Raymond and Everett, and closed extensive logging operations in Pacific County. Indefinite closings at Everett (220), Raymond (340) and Pe Ell (160), cap several months of steady erosion. An announced layoff of 140 workers at the White River Sawmill in Enumclaw was averted when union officials reached a last minute cost cutting agreement with Weyerhaeuser. The workforce however, will still be reduced by 25 percent. September 1984 payrolls in the industry are nearly 2,000 below last year.

Weyerhaeuser: Layoffs in Washington, An office in China, and a Plant in North Carolina

On the heels of announced closures in the state, Weyerhaeuser said it will open an office in China as a means of increasing its exports of linerboard, pulp, and logs. Weyerhaeuser's 1984 sales to China will total about $100 million. While this has positive implications for workers in Washington State, another Weyerhaeuser announcement--that it will open a strandboard plant in North Carolina--exemplifies the plight of the local wood products industry. Access to faster growing southern pine, the proximity of heavy population centers, and cheaper labor have dramatically increased the Southern and Mid-Western share of the national lumber and wood products market.

A recent pick-up in housing starts, and final passage of a bill to relieve companies from full responsibility for unprofitable Federal timber cutting contracts will hold down additional failures in lumber and wood products. The roots of the industry's decline are so deep, however, that these developments will not spark a genuine revival.

A recent upturn in aluminum orders and a rise in ingot prices nationally may signal an end to cutbacks in production and employment in primary metals. The long-term job outlook in the industry, however, remains cloudy as cheaper foreign imports and overproduction by developing nations still make it difficult for American firms to operate profitably.

Goldendale Aluminum Plant Sold to Australian Company

Martin-Marietta, the sixth largest domestic aluminum producer, is withdrawing from the business and selling most of its operations to Australia's Comalco Ltd. Jobs at Martin-Marietta's Goldendale, Washington plant appear secure. According to press reports, Comalco plans to use the 185,000 ton smelter in eastern Washington to process aluminum ingot for its modern, profitable rolling mill in Kentucky. Over the past year, total employment in Washington State's aluminum production sector has slipped by 200.

More Layoffs In Shipbuilding as Navy Contracts Evaporate

The recent pick-up in aluminum orders may signal a halt to layoffs in the industry; but a similar ray of hope is not on the horizon for shipbuilding. The "other transportation" category, which includes shipbuilding, fell by another 100 jobs in September, partially offsetting the sizeable gain posted by aerospace in the transportation equipment sector.

Puget Sound shipyards announced intentions to lay-off an additional 1,000 workers in the next two to three months. Officials of the companies say that a halt in new orders from the U.S. Navy is responsible for the cutbacks. Navy contracts have increasingly gone to firms in the Gulf Coast region, where labor costs are generally lower. Representatives of Puget Sound shipbuilding unions argue that the quality of work done by Northwest shipyards is much higher; but an increasingly cost-conscious Navy, they argue, is now less willing to pay the steeper price.

Unfilled Orders Up At Boeing

Aerospace is still carrying the state's manufacturing recovery on its shoulders. An addition of 1,100 jobs by the industry in September more than offset combined losses in lumber and wood products (-400), aluminum (-100) and "other transportation equipment", including shipbuilding (-100). The net gain among durable goods manufacturers in September was 800 jobs. The coming year also looks bright for aerospace. At the end of September the Boeing Company had $22 billion worth of unfilled orders, compared to $18 billion at the end of 1983. The dollar value of new orders, however, has decreased to $5.24 billion this year, compared to $6.4 billion at the same time in 1983.

Nationally, durable goods orders fell 4.3 percent in September. The plunge, however, was concentrated in automobiles and defense. Orders for non-defense capital

goods rose 2.3 percent over the month. The encouraging September performance, after three successive monthly declines, reflects residual strength in capital investment. Combined with assured growth in aerospace well into 1985, the state's durable goods sector should at least preserve its over-the-year gain of 11,000 jobs.

Gap Narrows Between State and National Recovery

Considering the special problems faced by lumber, shipbuilding, and primary metals in the Northwest region, this has been a respectable comeback for durable goods employment. Since August 1983, employment in the sector has increased by about eight percent nationally, compared to five percent in the state. Since March, however, this gap has been closing, with jobs in durables rising by about three percent for both the state and nation. The convergence of national and state growth rates in durable goods employment--which usually happens in the late stages of recovery--has helped narrow the gap between the state and national unemployment rates.

Nondurable Goods Industries

A seasonal gain of 1,000 workers in food processing was the major development in the nondurable goods sector during September. Jobs in this industry usually increase at this time of year when late harvested crops become available for storage, canning, or packaging. Three companies involved in the manufacture of frozen french fries added nearly 700 workers during the month.

Abnormal Shortfall in Food Processing Payrolls

Still, the September gain in food processing fell considerably short of the normal seasonal pick-up. Typically, September food processing jobs rise by 2,500 to 3,500. The reasons for the shortfall are not yet clear. A full explanation awaits October and November data on the industry. Among the possible explanations to be examined are: a shift in the timing of seasonal hiring because of a late harvest, a cutback in production due to crop loss, or a change in industry employment patterns in response to a revised unemployment insurance tax system.

Each year the "season" in food processing is slightly different. This means that a "shortfall" in one month may be balanced by a larger than expected rise in the next survey period. A genuine decline in demand or production, may have also taken place. A decline of this nature can occur when major contracts are lost or when crops are destroyed by harsh weather conditions. An unusually wet spring this year may have, indeed, retarded seasonal hiring in the industry.

"Experience Rating" May Affect Seasonal Hiring Patterns

The advent of "experience rating" is yet another possible reason for the September "shortfall" in food processing payrolls. Starting in January 1985, a company's unemployment insurance tax rate will be based on its past experiences in the labor market: an employer with a history of repeated and significant layoffs will pay a higher unemployment insurance tax. This "experience rating" system will cause some seasonal employers to "smooth-out" their production and hiring schedules, keeping as many workers employed steadily throughout the year as possible.

Industry data reported in the next two months will clarify the reasons for the apparent shortfall in food processing payrolls.

NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

A better than normal performance by the construction sector again highlighted monthly developments in nonmanufacturing employment. The industry added 1,100 jobs, the highest August to September gain since the onset of the housing boom in 1977. The over-the-year gain has also been solid. Current payrolls are 4,300 higher than one year ago.

Largest Increase In September Construction Payrolls Since 1977

The enactment of tax laws making non-residential and apartment construction more profitable, vigor in commercial building, and increased spending on public works, are providing the stimulus for jobs in construction trades. Last month, a dip in mortgage rates also made a contribution. Nationally, housing starts rose 8.9 percent in September after two months of decline. Permits issued for new construction, however, dropped during the month suggesting that the upswing in housing starts will be shortlived.

The September jump in wholesale trade employment (+2,300) was normal for this time of year, as fresh fruits and vegetables became available for packing and distribution. The retail trade performance, however, was again lackluster, as jobs in the sector advanced by just 1,300 during the month. For the second straight month, the rise in retail trade payrolls failed to equal seasonal norms.

Lull in Consumer Spending Holds Down Growth in Retail Trade Jobs

A late August/early September spurt in "back-to-school" buying boosted employment in apparel and department stores. Food and beverage establishments also added workers, with the Western Washington Fair in Puyallup accounting for a major part of the September rise. The summer slowdown in consumer spending, however, held-down hiring among major retailers. A healthy September jump in retail sales across the nation and forecasts of booming holiday sales, may accelerate hiring at retail establishments in October and November.

In the government sector, the beginning of a new school year restored more than 17,000 jobs in public education. The increase was partly offset by seasonal cutbacks at parks, forests, playgrounds, and in summer work-experience programs for youth. Overall, government payrolls increased by 11,000 during September. Job growth in services during the month equalled seasonal norms. Firms providing educational services added 2,200, contributing to a net gain of 2,700 for all service industries.

National data indicate that spending and optimism among consumers turned positive again in September, after a summer lull. According to the State Department of Revenue, real personal income, which drives employment in services and trade, is expected to grow at an annual rate of about three percent in the state during the fourth quarter of 1984. Although this is down from the previous four quarters, it will be sufficient to maintain solid job growth in trade and services through at least mid-1985.

EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK: THE NATIONAL CONTEXT

On the national level, data reported in September now point unmistakably to a slower rate of expansion in the months ahead. A revised estimate of third quarter gross national product (GNP), showed the economy growing at an annual rate of 2.7 percent, down from 10.1 percent and 7.1 percent in the first and second quarters. Slower growth, however, together with low inflation have prompted three successive monthly dips in the prime lending rate. Another drop--to 11.75 percent--is expected shortly.

Falling Oil Prices Hold Down Inflation

Weak demand and overproduction recently forced some major oil producers, including one member of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), to cut prices by as much as two dollars a barrel. An emergency OPEC meeting was called to avert a general price decline, resulting in a pledge to cut production by December. Since economic conditions differ widely among OPEC members, this decision will be difficult to enforce. Some debt ridden nations in the organization cannot afford sharp production cutbacks. Others have cut prices percipitously to capture a larger share of a shrinking market.

These developments ought to prevent inflation from igniting. They relieve pressure on the Federal Reserve to pursue policies that keep interest rates high. The most recent data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics shows the Consumer Price Index rising at a very moderate 4.2 percent nationally and 3.3 percent in the Seattle-Everett area for the year ending September 1984. (See the table next page.)

With inflation under control, large Federal budget deficits are the most serious threat to interest rates. Employment in the state's interest rate sensitive manufacturing sectors will depend heavily on how Congress and the Administration address the deficit problems in the months ahead.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

(All Items, Urban Consumers, 1967=100)

	INDEXES			PERCENT CHANGE				
				Year Ending		2 Months Ending		1 Month Ending
	Sept 1983	Aug 1984	Sept 1984	Aug 1984	Sept 1984	Aug 1984	Sept 1984	1984
U.S. City Average	301.8	313.0	314.5	4.2	4.2	0.7	0.9	0.5
Seattle-Everett	306.5	--	316.5	--	3.3	--	0.7	--

AREA WAGE SURVEY REPORT AVAILABLE FOR COWLITZ COUNTY

The Wage Analysis Unit of the Research and Analysis Branch recently completed an occupational wage survey for Cowlitz County. The survey report, based upon data from 137 establishments, presents wage ranges and aveages for clerical, managerial, professional, technical and general occupations. The report, titled "AREA WAGE SURVEY, COWLITZ COUNTY, AUGUST, 1984" is available on request from Research and Analysis, P.O. Box 46502, Seattle, Washington 98146. Phone (206) 764-6453.

RESIDENT CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT IN WASHINGTON STATE 1/
(In Thousands)

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Sep. 1984 (Prel.)	Aug. 1984 (Rev.)	Sep. 1983	Aug. 1983	Change Aug.84 to Sep.84	Change Sep.83 to Sep.84
RESIDENT CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	2,071.0	2,079.9	2,083.8	2,075.6	-8.9	-12.8
EMPLOYMENT	1,897.9	1,895.9	1,890.2	1,866.5	+2.0	+7.7
UNEMPLOYMENT	173.1	184.0	193.6	209.1	-10.9	-20.5
Percent of Labor Force	8.4	8.8	9.3	10.1	xxx	xxx

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS IN WASHINGTON STATE,
PLACE OF WORK 2/
(In Thousands)

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Sep. 1984 (Prel.)	Aug. 1984 (Rev.)	Sep. 1983	Aug. 1983	Change Aug.84 to Sep.84	Change Sep.83 to Sep.84
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE AND SALARY	1,667.0	1,647.1	1,610.8	1,581.4	+19.9	+56.2
TOTAL MANUFACTURING	292.6	291.1	281.1	279.2	+1.5	+11.5
Durable Goods	200.5	199.7	189.5	189.4	+0.8	+11.0
Lumber & Wood Products	41.6	42.0	43.4	43.7	-0.4	-1.8
Furniture & Fixtures	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.4	+0.1	0.0
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod	6.6	6.6	6.3	6.3	0.0	+0.3
Primary Metal Industries	13.1	13.0	13.1	12.8	+0.1	0.0
Aluminum Products	8.5	8.6	8.7	8.5	-0.1	-0.2
Fabricated Metal Products	9.9	10.0	9.8	10.0	-0.1	+0.1
Machinery	28.3	28.3	26.3	26.1	0.0	+2.0
Machinery (Exc. Elect.)	16.3	16.4	15.5	15.3	-0.1	+0.8
Electrical & Elect. Equip.	12.0	11.9	10.8	10.8	+0.1	+1.2
Transportation Equipment	83.3	82.3	73.3	73.2	+1.0	+10.0
Aerospace	68.3	67.2	61.5	61.8	+1.1	+6.8
Other Transp. Equipment	15.0	15.1	4/ 11.8	4/ 11.4	-0.1	+3.2
Instruments & Related Prod	9.7	9.7	9.6	9.6	0.0	+0.1
Misc. Manufacturing Ind	4.6	4.5	4.3	4.3	+0.1	+0.3
Nondurable Goods	92.1	91.4	91.6	89.8	+0.7	+0.5
Food & Kindred Products	34.7	33.7	36.4	34.6	+1.0	-1.7
Canned & Preserved Foods	14.3	13.0	15.7	14.3	+1.3	-1.4
Apparel & Other Text. Prod	6.4	6.4	6.1	6.0	0.0	+0.3
Paper & Allied Products	16.5	16.8	16.0	16.0	-0.3	+0.5
Printing & Publishing	16.5	16.5	15.9	15.9	0.0	+0.6
Chemicals & Allied Products	10.7	10.4	10.3	10.4	+0.3	+0.4
Other Nondurable Goods 3/	7.3	7.6	6.9	6.9	-0.3	+0.4
MINING & QUARRYING	2.7	2.8	2.9	2.8	-0.1	-0.2
CONSTRUCTION	82.4	81.3	78.1	78.1	+1.1	+4.3
TRANS. & PUBLIC UTILITIES	93.7	93.5	4/ 90.7	4/ 85.0	+0.2	+3.0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	419.2	415.6	406.8	402.5	+3.6	+12.4
Wholesale Trade	108.6	106.3	106.0	103.6	+2.3	+2.6
Retail Trade	310.6	309.3	300.8	4/ 298.9	+1.3	+9.8
FINANCE, INS., & REAL ESTATE	94.9	95.0	93.5	93.9	-0.1	+1.4
SERVICES	350.8	348.1	335.0	331.8	+2.7	+15.8
GOVERNMENT	330.7	319.7	322.7	308.1	+11.0	+8.0
Federal	68.9	69.7	68.7	69.1	-0.8	+0.2
State & Local	261.8	250.0	4/ 254.0	239.0	+11.8	+7.8
Education	132.1	114.9	4/ 131.2	111.5	+17.2	+0.9
(WORKERS IN LABOR MANAGEMENT DISPUTES)	0.0	0.0	9.5	0.9	0.0	-9.5

1/ These data are alternative estimates which are more nearly comparable to data released in previous years than are official Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates developed for Federal program purposes.

2/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of armed forces, and private household employees. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during pay period including the 12th of the month.

3/ Includes textile mill products, rubber and miscellaneous plastics products, petroleum refining and related products, and leather products.

4/ Excludes workers involved in labor-management disputes.

WASHINGTON STATE LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT
ESTIMATES FOR FEDERAL PROGRAM PURPOSES

October 24, 1984
Benchmark 1983

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	September 1984 Preliminary 3/				August 1984 Revised			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
Washington State Total 1/	2,041,000	1,878,100	162,900	8.0	2,044,200	1,876,700	167,500	8.2
Bellingham SMSA	51,200	46,400	4,800	9.4	51,800	47,300	4,500	8.7
Bremerton SMSA	64,700	60,700	4,000	6.2	64,400	60,500	3,900	6.1
Olympia SMSA	58,500	53,300	5,200	8.9	58,500	53,400	5,100	8.7
Seattle-Everett SMSA	902,200	840,100	62,100	6.9	904,700	843,700	61,000	6.7
King County	711,900	663,900	48,000	6.7	713,900	666,700	47,200	6.6
Snohomish County	190,300	176,200	14,100	7.4	190,800	177,000	13,800	7.2
Spokane SMSA	151,800	140,600	11,200	7.4	150,400	139,200	11,200	7.4
Tacoma SMSA	191,200	174,500	16,700	8.7	187,600	171,100	16,500	8.8
Tri-Cities Area 2/	71,900	64,300	7,600	10.6	72,300	63,300	9,000	12.4
Yakima SMSA	89,800	81,100	8,700	9.7	91,700	81,000	10,700	11.7
Wenatchee Labor Area 2/	36,240	32,900	3,340	9.2	37,570	32,840	4,730	12.6
Adams	7,770	7,110	660	8.5	7,540	6,790	750	9.9
Asotin	8,220	7,640	580	7.1	8,310	7,720	590	7.1
Clallam	19,950	17,360	2,590	13.0	19,550	17,430	2,120	10.8
Clark	92,170	86,050	6,120	6.6	93,020	86,290	6,730	7.2
Columbia	1,750	1,570	180	10.3	1,750	1,570	180	10.3
Cowlitz	31,550	28,230	3,320	10.5	31,570	28,080	3,490	11.1
Ferry	2,660	2,350	310	11.7	2,620	2,290	330	12.6
Garfield	1,290	1,210	80	6.2	1,310	1,230	80	6.1
Grant	23,380	20,950	2,430	10.4	23,990	21,350	2,640	11.0
Grays Harbor	28,400	24,670	3,740	13.2	29,160	25,220	3,940	13.5
Island	15,410	14,240	1,170	7.6	15,480	14,350	1,130	7.3
Jefferson	7,110	6,530	580	8.2	6,990	6,500	490	7.0
Kittitas	11,060	10,050	1,010	9.1	10,790	9,780	1,010	9.4
Klickitat	7,120	6,440	680	9.6	7,300	6,390	910	12.5
Lewis	23,920	21,320	2,600	10.9	24,080	21,350	2,730	11.3
Lincoln	4,850	4,590	260	5.4	4,890	4,670	220	4.5
Mason	11,580	10,570	1,010	8.7	11,280	10,300	980	8.7
Okanogan	17,250	14,820	2,430	14.1	17,300	14,540	2,760	16.0
Pacific	6,940	5,980	960	13.8	7,450	6,270	1,180	15.8
Pend Oreille	4,040	3,650	390	9.7	4,130	3,720	410	9.9
San Juan	4,200	4,030	170	4.0	4,450	4,290	160	3.6
Skagit	33,930	29,980	3,950	11.6	35,250	31,390	3,860	11.0
Skamania	2,700	2,340	360	13.3	2,830	2,430	400	14.1
Stevens	12,250	10,820	1,430	11.7	12,260	10,820	1,440	11.7
Wahkiakum	1,390	1,240	150	10.8	1,490	1,260	230	15.4
Walla Walla	25,740	24,150	1,590	6.2	25,560	23,950	1,610	6.3
Whitman	16,770	16,290	480	2.9	15,100	14,650	450	3.0

1/ Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data. Data are not comparable with estimates made in previous years.

2/ Includes Benton and Franklin counties.

3/ Includes Chelan and Douglas counties.

Washington State
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT

RESIDENT LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT IN WASHINGTON STATE AND LABOR MARKET AREAS

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Date: October 25, 1984
Benchmark: 1983

John Spellman, Governor
Norward J. Brooks, Commissioner

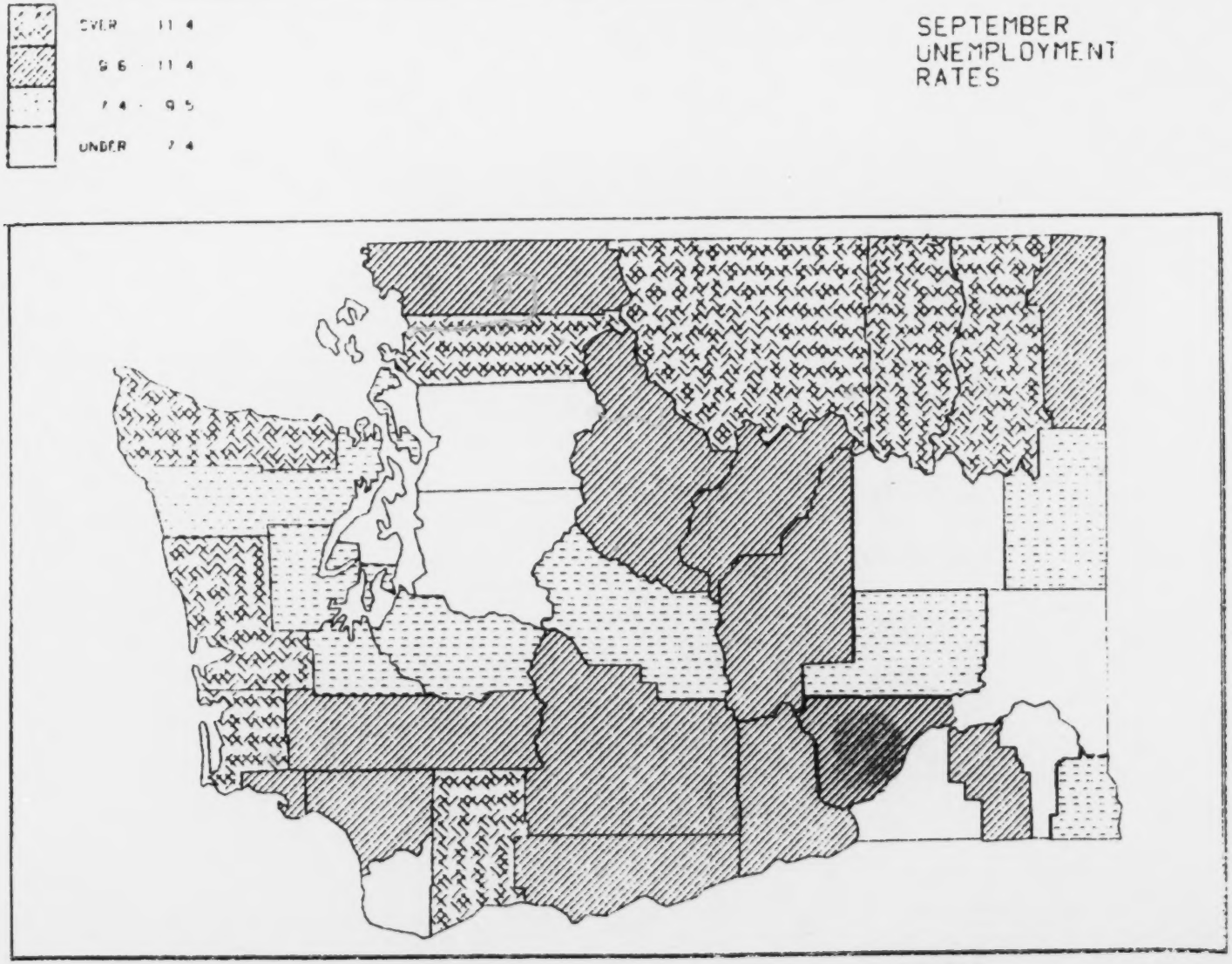
	September 1984 Preliminary 3/				August 1984 Revised				September 1983 Revised			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
Washington State Total 1/	2,071,000	1,897,900	173,100	8.4	2,079,900	1,895,900	184,000	8.9	2,083,800	1,890,200	193,600	9.3
Bellingham SMSA	52,000	46,900	5,100	9.8	52,600	47,700	4,900	9.3	51,600	46,800	4,800	9.3
Bremerton SMSA	65,600	61,300	4,300	6.6	65,400	61,100	4,300	6.6	65,000	60,300	4,700	7.2
Olympia SMSA	59,400	53,900	5,500	9.3	59,500	53,900	5,600	9.4	58,500	52,300	6,200	10.6
Seattle-Everett SMSA	914,900	848,900	66,000	7.2	919,400	852,300	67,100	7.3	903,600	824,300	79,300	8.8
Spokane SMSA	154,000	142,100	11,900	7.7	152,900	140,600	12,300	8.0	156,400	143,600	12,800	8.2
Tacoma SMSA	194,200	176,400	17,800	9.2	190,900	172,800	18,100	9.5	196,800	174,800	22,000	11.2
Tri-Cities Area 2/	73,100	65,000	8,100	11.1	73,800	63,900	9,900	13.4	78,300	69,000	9,300	11.9
Yakima SMSA	91,200	82,000	9,200	10.1	93,600	81,800	11,800	12.6	95,500	86,300	9,200	9.6
Wenatchee Labor Area 2/	36,800	33,250	3,550	9.6	38,370	33,170	5,200	13.6	38,610	35,270	3,340	8.7
Adams	7,890	7,190	700	8.9	7,680	6,860	820	10.7	8,280	7,480	800	9.7
Asotin	8,340	7,720	620	7.4	8,440	7,790	650	7.7	8,890	8,190	700	7.9
Clallam	20,300	17,540	2,760	13.6	19,940	17,610	2,330	11.7	20,300	18,070	2,230	11.0
Clark	93,470	86,960	6,510	7.0	94,560	87,170	7,390	7.8	93,490	85,570	7,920	8.5
Columbia	1,780	1,580	200	11.2	1,780	1,580	200	11.2	1,850	1,630	220	11.9
Cowlitz	32,050	28,520	3,530	11.0	32,200	28,370	3,830	11.9	33,810	29,870	3,940	11.7
Ferry	2,710	2,380	330	12.2	2,670	2,310	360	13.5	2,720	2,430	290	10.7
Garfield	1,300	1,220	80	6.2	1,330	1,240	90	6.8	1,350	1,280	70	5.2
Grant	23,760	21,170	2,590	10.9	24,460	21,570	2,890	11.8	25,730	23,180	2,550	9.9
Grays Harbor	28,900	24,930	3,970	13.7	29,810	25,480	4,330	14.5	30,320	26,550	3,770	12.4
Island	15,630	14,390	1,240	7.9	15,750	14,500	1,250	7.9	15,290	13,970	1,320	8.6
Jefferson	7,210	6,600	610	8.5	7,110	6,570	540	7.6	6,960	6,420	540	7.8
Kittitas	11,230	10,160	1,070	9.5	10,990	9,880	1,110	10.1	11,200	10,100	1,100	9.8
Klickitat	7,230	6,510	720	10.0	7,450	6,450	1,000	13.4	7,160	6,430	730	10.2
Lewis	24,310	21,540	2,770	11.4	24,570	21,570	3,000	12.2	25,050	22,160	2,890	11.5
Lincoln	4,910	4,640	270	5.5	4,970	4,720	250	5.0	4,910	4,710	200	4.1
Mason	11,750	10,680	1,070	9.1	11,480	10,400	1,080	9.4	11,110	9,990	1,120	10.1
Okanogan	17,560	14,980	2,580	14.7	17,720	14,690	3,030	17.1	18,900	16,960	1,940	10.3
Pacific	7,060	6,040	1,020	14.4	7,630	6,340	1,290	16.9	7,660	6,620	1,040	13.6
Pend Oreille	4,100	3,690	410	10.0	4,210	3,760	450	10.7	3,930	3,380	550	14.0
San Juan	4,250	4,070	180	4.2	4,500	4,330	170	3.8	4,420	4,180	240	5.4
Skagit	34,500	30,300	4,200	12.2	35,940	31,710	4,230	11.8	35,470	31,940	3,530	10.0
Skamania	2,740	2,360	380	13.9	2,890	2,450	440	15.2	3,170	2,760	410	12.9
Stevens	12,450	10,930	1,520	12.2	12,510	10,930	1,580	12.6	12,230	10,680	1,550	12.7
Wahkiakum	1,400	1,250	150	10.7	1,520	1,270	250	16.4	1,360	1,260	100	7.4
Walla Walla	26,100	24,410	1,690	6.5	25,970	24,200	1,770	6.8	26,630	24,780	1,850	6.9
Whitman	16,970	16,460	510	3.0	15,300	14,800	500	3.3	17,490	16,930	560	3.2

1/ Detail may not add due to rounding.

2/ The Tri-Cities area includes all of Benton and Franklin Counties. The Wenatchee Labor Area includes all of Chelan and Douglas counties.

3/ Estimates provided here are for use as an economic time-series. Official Bureau of Labor Statistics' estimates, which must be used for Federal program purposes, are available upon request.

Research and Analysis Branch


OVER 11.4
9.6 - 11.4
7.4 - 9.5
UNDER 7.4
SEPTEMBER
UNEMPLOYMENT
RATES